Look closely at the works in the venue and try answering some questions! oiscover the wonders the arts of Japan's gods and goddesses Through two mission · Please don't touch the displayed works or panels. Requests from the Zanmais, · Walk slowly when moving through the gallery and don't run. the Museum's Mascots · Don't rest things on the glass cases or floor when taking notes. · Use a pencil when writing.

Take on Two Missions!

Mission 1

This mission starts on the next page!

Solve mysteries!

Challenge yourself with quizzes related to the arts of Japan's gods and goddesses!

Mission 2

Find this on the last page!

Draw your own depictions of gods and goddesses!

Try drawing one of the works, gods, or goddesses that caught your eye in the gallery!



Question 1 What are those people at the base of the mountain doing?



Fuji Sankei Mandara
 Edo period, 17th-18th century
 Yadawara Farmer's Association No. 3

- 1 Dancing in the water
- 2 Trying to catch fish
- 3 Taking a bath

Question 2 Why are they entering water before visiting the home of a god or goddess?

- 1 To get a present ready for the god or goddess
- **To purify their bodies**
- To show off their swimming skills to the gods and goddesses

It's essential to do this before visiting the home of a god or goddess!



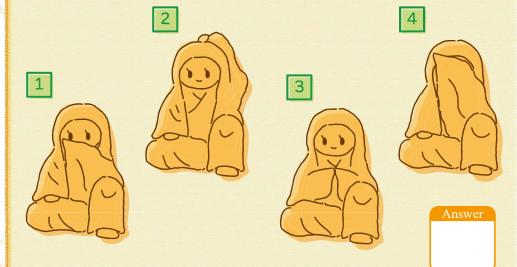
Answer



Answer

Question 1

Which is the right pose?



Question 2 Why does the goddess look like this?

- 1 Because she is about to sneeze
- Because it's a gesture ladies would make back in those days
- **3** Because she is eating

Gods and goddesses were sometimes represented looking like humans.



Angwer

What does the god/goddess on top of Benzaiten's head look like?



Ouestion 1

18. Benzaiten with Fifteen Child Attendants Muromachi period, 16th century Nakanobō, Taimadera Temple, Nara

- The body of a snake and the head of an old man
- The body of a turtle and the head of a child
- The body of a frog and the head of an old woman

There's another god/goddess
who looks the same
on display in this gallery.
See if you can find him/her!

Answer

Question 2

Benzaiten and the god/goddess on top of her head are both deities connected to something.

What is it?

1 Fire





Trees



They're combined because they have similar roles!





What animal is this god riding on?



Question 1

What is the dragon god holding?





A bottle

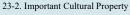


A watering can

washbasin



Answer



Illustrated Legends of the Great Buddha of Tōdaiji, Scroll Three Muromachi period, 1536 (Tenbun 5) Tōdaiji Temple, Nara

Question 2 Lots of water is coming out of the object he's holding. What is he doing?

- Growing flowers to make an offering
- Filling a temple pond
- Helping people transport wood for building

It's related to the Great Buddha of Nara at Todaiji Temple!

Answer

A deer A horse Answer 25. Kashimadachi Shin'ei Nanbokuchō period, 14th century

Question 2

Nara National Museum

Question 1

What is this animal up to?

- They're competing with the others to give the god a ride on their back
- They're going for a stroll with the god
- They're transporting the god from far, far away

with a deep connection to Nara!



Answer

Question

What are these tools for?

Choose the correct combination.

1



Removing grime from combs

Answer

2



Blackening teeth

Answer

3



Drawing eyebrows

Answer

31. National Treasure

Handbox with Makie Decorations and its Contents

(Ancient Shrine Treasures of Kumano Hayatama Taisha)

Nanbokuchō period, ca.1390 (Meitoku 1)

Kumano Hayatama Taisha Shrine, Wakayama

Beauty tools were used by both men and women.



Question 1

How many portable shrines (*mikoshi*) can you see in the picture?



It's supposed to show one portable shrine being carried from place to place.

Answer

33. Yokitenjin Sairei Edo period, 18th century Hasedera Temple, Nara

Question 2

Why are gods/goddesses carried around as part of a festival?

Choose all of the correct answers.

- 1 To make the god/goddess feel refreshed
- 2 To take the god/goddess shopping
- To take the god/goddess to the theater and dancing

The gods are into some of the same things as people, aren't they?



Answer



"Exploring Art: The Wonders of Japan's Gods and Goddesses"

Dates: Saturday, July 20, to Sunday, September 1, 2024 Venue: West New Wings of the Nara National Museum

Organizers: The Nara National Museum and Japan Broadcasting Corporation (NHK) Nara Station

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Draw your own depictions of gods and goddesses!

Try drawing an artwork of a god or goddess
that caught your eye in the gallery on the back!
Feel free to draw the whole work or just part of it and to include text, too!

You can take your masterpiece home with you or display it in the Workshop Corner.

I'll draw one, too!







